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The Geology and Coal Resources of the Coal-bearing Portion of Tazewell County, Virginia. By T. K. HARNSBERGER. Virginia Geological Survey, University of Virginia, Bull. No. 19. Prepared in co-operation with the U.S. Geological Survey. 1919. Pp. 195.

This report deals with the coal resources of Tazewell County in southwestern Virginia. The surface rocks in the coal district belong to the Devonian, Mississippian, and Pennsylvanian systems. All the commercially valuable coal is in the Pennsylvanian.

The most prominent structural feature of the area is the Dry Forks anticline. The Pocahontas syncline and other folds occur in the region. The coal area is bounded on the southeast by a series of thrust faults. The Tazewell County coal field originally extended to the southeast far beyond its present limits but folds and faults lifted the coal-bearing rocks of the region to the southeast far above those of the present field and they have been removed by erosion.

The total area of coal land is 696.5 square miles. The total thickness of the coal-bearing formations is about 2,800 feet, every portion of which is exposed in some part of the area. At least fifteen coal beds are 30 inches or more in thickness over territory of sufficient extent to justify mining. In general the coal is of good coking quality and has a high fuel value. Because of the extreme variability of the coal beds, plans for development should be preceded by careful geological examination. Complete descriptions of the various coal beds are given. Included in the report are both a topographic and a geologic map of the coal area.

R. A. J.